

121 SOUTH MAIN STREET POST OFFICE BOX 187 TROY, KANSAS 66087

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SEP 1 2 2005

September 7, 2005

Mr. John F. Carter, Director FDIC San Francisco Regional Office 25 Jessie Street at Ecker Square. Suite 2300 San Francisco, CA. 94105

Dear Mr. Carter.

We are a \$21,000,000 bank in a small town of 1,120 population located just fifteen miles west of St. Joseph, Missouri. To the west of us twenty five miles is the town of Hiawatha, Kansas and to the South seventeen miles is Atchison, Kansas. All three of these small towns have a Walmart Super center or is getting one in the near future. Both Hiawatha and Atchison are small enough that their downtown area is now almost nothing because Walmart has come in with lower prices and driven most of the retail business out. With the financial clout that Walmart has it is not inconceivable that with banking powers they could drive small banks out of business.

With Walmart as the only banking option retail competitors are forced to do their banking business with them at a very real disadvantage. They could make loan decisions based on the best competitive advantage for them. Mixing commerce and banking has and always will be a bad precedent. With a bank in every Walmart store it produces a tremendous concentration of economic power. Please reject the application for FDIC insurance coverage for the Utah based ILC and keep banking and commerce independent. Thank you.

James G. Leedhun

James A. Needham

President



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THAD G. GEIGER
Executive Vice President

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> September 7, 2005 FDIC San Francisco Regional Office Director Johns F. Carter 25 Jessie Street at Ecker Square, Ste 2300 San Francisco, CA 94105

## Dear Sirs:

I am writing in opposition to Wal Mart's application for deposit insurance for its pending Utah based ILC. To allow the marriage of banking and commerce is bad public policy that could lead to impartial credit decisions and further deterioration of main street America. Wal Mart has a history of de-stabilizing communities. I have personally witnessed the demise of local retailers as Wal Mart enters a community. In a relative short period of time long time family owned businesses and sole proprietors are replaced with empty store fronts and low paying part time jobs at the local Wal Mart.

Congress reaffirmed its opposition to the mix of banking and commerce with passage of Gramm-Leach – Bliley Act. Given their track record, it is hard to imagine a Wal Mart bank that would be receptive to a loan request from any type of retail competition. To allow such concentration of economic power would be irresponsible. Please put this monster to rest and do not allow Wal Mart entry into banking.

Respectfully, Thad G. Geiger EVP

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